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Financial statement
available upon written
request to the Board.

DVOS

PO Box 273021

Concord, Ca. 94520

Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org> a 501c3 corp.

April 13, 2006

5:30 Speaker's Dinner, 7:30 Meeting Starts, Presentation ~8:00

Contra Costa Water District, 1331 Concord Ave, Concord

Bad Plants. Bad Plants. Whacha Gonna Do?

Whacha gonna do when they happen to you? Fresh from the Parole Office, Ice-KB (leader of the Thrips gang) rejoins Ja-Rule Olivas (infamous leader of the Buds) to discuss "Why Oh Why Can't I?" Grow orchids, that is.

What you need to do:

Bring us your bad plants. Your tired, your weak, your orchids yearning to breathe free... oops - wrong speech. [ahem.] Bring in the orchids you've been having trouble with and we'll discuss ways to improve their culture. Not some theoretical orchid growing in conditions from some far away land (like Florida). YOUR orchid, YOUR conditions. C'Mon! Even Dave Tomassini has a bad plant or two, so don't be shy! After all, how can we help you if we can't see what you're doing? Ribbons will be given to those with the worst plants (ie the opposite of the way we usually hand out ribbons.) And there'll be a drawing for prizes (but with a catch!) Any plants with bugs or diseases PLEASE bring them in a plastic bag so as not to contaminate other plants.

The speakers dinner on April 13, will be at Suwa's Japanese Restaurant, 2151 Salvio, Todos Santos Park, Concord. Phone number 925-825-3201. We will meet there at 5.30 pm For those interested in dining with Dennis and Kathy please join us. Call Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 by April 11, so reservations can be made.

The next DVOS Board meeting will be Alice and Dave Tomassini's house on the 20th of April at 7:30pm.

Speakers for 2006:

May 11th - Dennis Olivas – All you wanted to know about transplanting

Refreshments for March Meeting:

Elizabeth Marquez, Dennis Olivas, Phyllis Arthur, Pam Wood, Kathi Ames, Shirley Nagy, Nancy Kieft, Ken and Renee Dowdell.

Awarded plants of March meeting

1st Miltonia Santanaei 'Snowflake'
Sharon Duffy

2nd Dendrobium pierardii
Barbara Tague

3rd Cymbidium Arts 'Royale Magic'
Barbara Tague

Lancer Smith: Microterangis hildebrandtii
Akiko Ogawa

Look What I Bloomed for the First Time:
Cymbidium Kumamoto 'Golden Yellow'
Jennie Tom



March Recap

March is my birthday month and at this moment in time I am officially a 49'er. That's right, 49 years old. As my father, who is an astronomy buff, would say I've made 49 trips around the sun. No matter how old you are, each birthday past 30 is always a time to stop and do a little introspection on your life. There are a couple of points that clearly are age defining now that I'm a 49'er.

The first one occurred at this last orchid meeting when our speaker Marni Turkel was talking about *Dendrochilums* and their relatives. Marni was saying that most of these species of orchids had a blossom the size of a nickel or less. So here is a sign of the times. Any orchid that requires putting on my cheater eyeglasses to see is not worth growing anymore. We all have them. The species that never bloom. They probably do and have many times but are so small you never saw them. I need a flower that is big enough to see without glasses.

The second mind jolt came earlier in the month when I was down in Arizona for the weekend. The first thing I did when I got in the rental car is scan all the radio stations. When I'm in the southwest I love to listen to country western music as I'm driving through that beautiful desert landscape. It just feels right. Well, here is when you know that time has passed you by. In Phoenix, Arizona there is only one country western radio station left. That's one more than we have in the Bay Area. That's right, in the Bay we have zero. So maybe it's time to accept the fact that country is not mainstream music anymore in the west.

O. K. Show time. As I mentioned earlier, Marni Turkel was our March speaker and gave a 45 minute slide show on *Dendrochilums*, *coelogyneae*, *pleione*, etc. These orchids are found in the Philippines, India, Borneo, the Andes and Marni Turkel's greenhouse. They are generally characterized as having short lasting flowers that last a maximum of three weeks... and did I mention that the flowers are small!!! Marni says that most of these flowers are defined by the shape of their lips. In her Santa Rosa greenhouses she grows species that grow at an elevation of 1500 meters (5000 feet) and higher. These seem to work well in her greenhouses. The species that grow from sea level to 2000 meters require a much warmer greenhouse than Marni can provide. One last bit of advice... many of these species experience a cool dry winter rest- which means don't water them in the winter or else you'll never see the blossoms with or without your glasses on. Thanks Marni.

Brad Piini

Express Orchid Exhibition

Wine Tasting- Orchid Sales-Culinary Sampling

Saturday, June 3rd and Sunday, June 4th
9 AM till 5 PM both days

At the **Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites-1350 N. Fourth St., San Jose**
and **"CPOA" SMART Meeting Solutions** 1310 N. Fourth St., San Jose



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Directions From I-880 North: Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit.- LEFT onto N. First St.- RIGHT onto East Rosemary St.-LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

Directions From I-880 South/East Bay: Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit.- RIGHT onto N. First St.- RIGHT onto East Rosemary St.- LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

Directions From US-101 North: Take I-880 South toward Santa Cruz - Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit.- RIGHT onto N. First St.- RIGHT onto East Rosemary St.-LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

Membership News

Let's give a warm welcome to our new member Stephanie Allen from Martinez, who brings the DVOS membership DVOS to 78.

Your membership has expired if you have not renewed your dues for 2006 (General Membership \$ 15, business \$ 25) and this is your last newsletter. You are not sure if you paid? Look at the address label. If it reads 2005, your membership has expired. If you receive this newsletter by email, feel free to send me a message and I will check and let you know.

The 2006 roster will be ready and available at the April meeting.

You can bring your check made out to DVOS with the renewal form to the next meeting on April 13 or mail it to

Diablo View Orchid Society
Att.: Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Ct
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116
membership@DVOS.org

2006 SPRING PLANT SALE - UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL GARDEN, BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

<http://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu/>

Members' Preview Sale: Friday, April 28th, 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Public Sale: Saturday, April 29th, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Location: 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley CA

Parking: Free parking in the University's lot across from the Garden. Overflow fee parking at Lawrence Hall of Science, with free shuttle bus to the Garden during the sale.

2006 Orchid Show and Plant Sale

The Sacramento Orchid Society

Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St., Sacramento, CA

Saturday April 22, 10AM to 5PM; Sunday April 23, 10AM to 4PM

Admission \$5.



**Diablo View Orchid Society –
Commercial Members**

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Commercial Plant Services

David and Alice Tomassini

586 El Capitan Dr.

(925) 648-7667

atomassini@aol.com

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Diablo View Orchid Society

Roy Florey, editor

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